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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/695,795	10/30/2003	Osamu Kawamae	58799-099	7975

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EXAMINER

BIBBINS, LATANYA

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2627

DATE MAILED: 09/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/695,795

Applicant(s)

KAWAMAE ET AL.

Examiner

LaTanya Bibbins

Art Unit

2627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Preliminary Amendment

2. Receipt is acknowledged of the preliminary amendment filed on October 30, 2003. In the amendment, claims 1-13 were amended and claims 16- 21 were added. Currently, claims 1-21 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. **Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.**

Claim 7 recites a recording apparatus wherein as the error data in the particular position comprises error data in a particular portion of the information corresponding to a position of a recorded area previous by twice of recording on the recording medium.

The term "previous by twice of recording" is not understood and appears incomplete. In the interest of compact prosecution, the examiner will interpret the claim as a recording apparatus wherein the error data in the particular position comprises

error data corresponding to a position of a recorded area which is updated at least 2 times.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. ***Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mukawa (US Patent Number 5,598,391).***

Regarding claim 1, an information recording method for recording data on a write-once recording medium (see column 4 lines 27-30 and Figure 1 element 1), comprising the steps of: recording information corresponding to a position of a recorded area on of the recording medium on the recording medium (column 8 lines 11-15), and when the information corresponding to the position of the recorded area is updated, newly recording the information on the recording medium at a predetermined timing (column 6 lines 54-58 and column 15 lines 39 and 40).

Regarding claim 2, the information recording method wherein: as the recorded information corresponding to the position of the recorded area comprises information on a predetermined number of areas (column 7 lines 36 and 37) and the recorded areas are recorded as discrete areas with the predetermined number as a limitation (column 8 lines 5 and 6).

Regarding claim 3, the information recording method, wherein the information comprises physical address information on the recording medium, recorded as a recording start address and a recording end address (column 8 lines 36-38).

Regarding claim 4, a recording apparatus, having a pickup (see figure 1 element 3), a signal processing circuit for signal processing accompanying recording (Figure 1 elements 7 and 11) and an interface for data input and output (column 6 lines 21-26 and Figure 1 element 19) for recording data on a write-once recording medium (see column 4 lines 27-30 and Figure 1 element 1), wherein: information corresponding to a position of a recorded area on the recording medium is read from the recording medium by the pickup (column 6 lines 38-40), and the information corresponding to the position of the recorded area is stored on a nonvolatile memory (see column 3 lines 20-23).

Regarding claim 5, the recording apparatus wherein: when the information corresponding to the position of the recorded area is updated, an update flag indicating that the information has been updated is set in the nonvolatile memory (column 13 lines 27-33) and the information corresponding to the position of the recorded area is recorded on the recording medium at predetermined timing (see column 14 lines 47-50, Figure 7 step F113, and column 15 lines 39 and 40) and when recoding is completed, the update flag is reset (see Figure 7 step F114).

Regarding claim 6, a recording apparatus, having a pickup (see figure 1 element 3), a signal processing circuit for signal processing accompanying recording (Figure 1 elements 7 and 11) and an interface for data input and output (column 6 lines

21-26 and Figure 1 element 19), for recording data on a write-once-read-many recording medium (see column 4 lines 27-30 and Figure 1 element 1), wherein: information corresponding to a position of a recorded area on the recording medium is read from the recording medium by the pickup (column 6 lines 38-40), and when the information corresponding to the position of the recorded area is updated, error data is generated in a particular position indicating that the information has been updated (see column 15 lines 20-24 and Figure 8 step F203).

Regarding claim 7, a recording apparatus wherein the error data in the particular position comprises error data corresponding to a position of a recorded area, which is updated at least 2 times (see column 15 lines 39-56 where the periodic renewal of the U-TOC data is discussed).

Regarding claim 8, an information recording method for recording data on a write-once recording medium (see column 4 lines 27-30 and Figure 1 element 1), comprising the steps of: recording information corresponding to a position of a recorded area of the recording medium on the recording medium (column 8 lines 11-15), and when the information corresponding to the position of the recorded area is updated, newly recording the information on the recording medium at a predetermined timing (column 6 lines 54-58 and column 15 lines 39 and 40), wherein when data is additionally recorded on the recording medium, a recording direction flag is included in the data indicating an address of recording is in an incremental direction or in a decremental (see the description of table pointers P-TNO1 to P-TNO255 in column 10 lines 1-28 and Figure 3, also the link information in Figure 4).

Regarding claim 9, the information recording method according to claim 8, wherein the recording direction flag is included in a sector identification signal added in a sector unit to the data. (see the **P-TNO** table pointers located in U-TOC sector 0 of Figure 3)

Regarding claim 10, the information recording method according to claim 8, wherein: the data corresponds to at least two types of synchronizing signals, and the recording direction flag corresponds to the synchronizing signals of the data (column 7 lines 16-21).

Regarding claim 11, an information recording method for recording data on a write-once recording medium (see column 4 lines 27-30 and Figure 1 element 1), comprising the steps of: recording information corresponding to a position of a recorded area on the recording medium of the recording medium (column 8 lines 11-15), and when the information corresponding to the position of the recorded area is updated, newly recording the information on the recording medium at a predetermined timing (column 6 lines 54-58 and column 15 lines 39 and 40), wherein when data is additionally recorded on the recording medium, a retrieval flag in the data indicates whether or not an area with an address smaller than that of recording start area by 1 is a recorded area (see the description of the **P-FRA** table pointer in column 9 lines 28-41).

Regarding claim 12, the information recording method, wherein the retrieval flag is included in a sector identification signal added in a sector unit to the data (see the **P-FRA** table pointer located in U-TOC sector 0 of Figure 3).

Regarding claim 13, the information recording method, wherein: the data corresponds to at least two types of synchronizing signals, and the retrieval flag corresponds to the synchronizing signals of the data (column 7 lines 16-21).

Regarding claim 14, the information recording method, wherein the same retrieval flag is added by a series of recording of the data (see the description of the P-FRA table pointer in column 9 lines 28-41 and Figure 4).

Regarding claim 15, the information recording method, wherein the information includes information corresponding to a start address or an end address of a management area on the recording medium (see column 7 lines 22-27).

Regarding claim 16, a recorded data product containing recorded data, comprising: a write-once recording medium (see column 4 lines 27-30 and Figure 1 element 1); a data area on the recording medium bearing first recorded data at a first location on the recording medium and subsequently recorded data at a second location on the recording medium; and a recording of updated management information on the recording medium, the updated management information including data identifying at least the first location and the second location (see the descriptions of the management of first and second music recordings in column 7 lines 51-67 and column 8 lines 1-3).

Regarding claim 17, a data product wherein: the recording of updated management information comprises a table of addresses recorded in a predetermined portion of the recording medium, and the addresses on the table identify the first and second locations on the recording medium (column 7 lines 22-34).

Regarding claim 18, a data product, further comprising a recording direction flag in the data area on the recording medium, the recording direction flag indicating incremental or decremental change in addressing of data recorded in a portion of the data area (see the description of table pointers P-TNO1 to P-TNO255 in column 10 lines 1-28 and Figure 3, also the link information in Figure 4).

Regarding claim 19, the data product of claim 16, further comprising a retrieval flag in the data area on the recording medium, the retrieval flag indicating whether a portion of the data area has been recorded (see the description of the P-FRA table pointer in column 9 lines 28-41).

Regarding claim 20, a data product further comprising an error signal recorded in a particular position on the recording medium indicating that the management information is updated information updated (see column 15 lines 20-24 and Figure 8 step F203).

Regarding claim 21, the data product wherein the write-once recording medium comprises a write-once-read-many optical disk (see column 4 lines 27-30 and Figure 1 element 1).


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LaTanya Bibbins whose telephone number is (571) 270-1125. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 7:30 am - 5:00 pm.

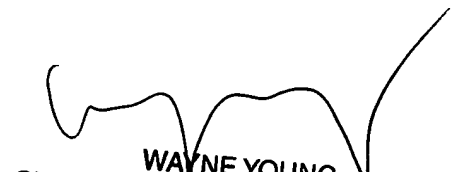
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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wayne Young can be reached on 571 272-7582. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



LaTanya Bibbins
Patent Examiner



WAYNE YOUNG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER